there is no gainsaying the fact that in point of English literacy and higher education your community compares unfavourably with other communities such as Brahmins, Nairs and Christians. All the representations that have been made in regard to this matter and especially in regard to English and higher education will receive the attention of Government.

123. Establishment of an English Middle School and the grant of other educational facilities for Arayans.

Mr. K. Velayudha Panikkan (Member, Nominated) represented that there were nofacilities for the pupils of his community for English education, that it was with a view to remove that disability that he urged, at some of the previous sessions of the Assembly, the necessity for the opening of an English Middle School, and that, although the matter was investigated and steps were taken to fix a site for the school, the school had not yet been opened. The Member then dealt with the need for the opening of at least one school in each taluk for the imparting of purely literary education as well as of industrial education in fish-curing and coir manufacture. He then said that Government were not encouraging the few qualified members of his community by giving appointments to them. This was one of the reasons for the present educational backwardness of that community.

In conclusion, the Member requested (1) that an English school with provision for the teaching of industrial subjects might be opened, (2) that technical institutions might be started for the imparting of education in fish industries, (3) that scholarships might be awarded to Araya students who come up for collegiate education, and (4) that suitable appointments might be given to qualified members of his community.

Dewan's reply.—The strength of your community is 9,000 in the whole State. Valans are not included in this figure. We cannot open a special school for such a comparatively small community. All schools are open to the members of your community and your youths are already getting the half-fee concession and the question of further facilities to backward classes in the matter of education is under consideration. We are increasing the number of fish-curing yards in the State. A Night School will shortly be opened at Cheriya Azhikal for members of your community.

124. Educational concessions to Gauda Saraswat Brahmins.

Mr. T. A. Gopala Pye (Member, Municipal Council, Alwaye) submitted that, while the Gauda Saraswat Brahmin community in Travancore numbered about 10,000, only a small figure was found returned at the last Census, and stated that this was evidently due to some mistake in the census operations. It was really humiliating to the community to see that a very small proportion of its members alone had received higher education. Out of the whole community, only fifteen had obtained University degrees and only about fifty or sixty had passed the English School Leaving Certificate Examination. Although 60 per cent of the community were of school-going age, only a few of them attended schools. The Gauda Saraswat Brahmins should, therefore, be classed with the educationally backward communities and allowed all the concessions usually afforded to such communities.

As an incentive to its members to pursue higher studies, the Member also prayed that preference be shown to the educated representatives of the community in the matter of Government appointments.

Dewan's reply.—You say that the strength of your community is 10,000. But the census figures show a smaller strength. It seems to me that it is too small a community to be thought fit for any special educational concessions. Further, the community is not so backward or poor as to deserve the concessions prayed for. I know that yours is a trading community and that such communities are not very particular about higher education. You yourself admit that 60 per cent of the members of your community are literate.

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